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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: April 17, 2020 Re: Manuel DaSilva

Convicted killer denied parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Manuel DaSilva, age 75, of Modesto, was denied parole today at the conclusion of a hearing before the Board of Parole Hearings held at the California Health Correctional Facility in Stockton. Deputy District Attorney John Goold appeared on behalf of the People.

On July 5, 1992, DaSilva shot and killed his wife, Rosa, during an argument. Witnesses heard him say "My wife, she's no good, I kill this wife, she ruined my life." When interviewed, DaSilva blamed the victim for causing what happened. Over the next five years, DaSilva was repeatedly declared incompetent to stand trial and was treated at various state mental hospitals. A competency trial held in October of 1997 found him competent to stand trial. On June 22, 1998, he pleaded no contest to second degree murder and was sentenced to serve 15 years to life in state prison.

In preparation for this parole hearing, DaSilva refused to be interviewed by a prison psychologist and then denied refusing when asked by the board. The psychologist found he posed a moderate risk to public safety if released. During the hearing, DaSilva blamed his wife for causing his actions and claimed he had no intent to kill her despite her gunshot wound to the head and a skull fracture that was caused by the .22 caliber rifle barrel striking her. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board denied parole for three years. The Board specifically referred to DaSilva's refusal to take any self-help programs since his last parole hearing which the Board had recommended he do. They also noted he continued to blame the victim and showed no remorse for her death.

This was DaSilva's fifth parole hearing. He is eligible to have his next hearing advanced to an earlier date due to his age.

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